

*file
Memo
for The
Record*

NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

18 March 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT : Telephone Conversation today with
Kelly Johnson at 1045 hours

1. Kelly called to report on the generator situation. They have reproduced the temperature conditions and found that in every case the Fafnir bearings are O. K. and firmly believe that we will have no further bearing troubles if we stick to the Fafnir. In connection with the brushes, [redacted] believes that the fumes from the degreaser which was in the same room as the place where they were testing out the generators were affecting the commutator and was one cause of the deterioration of the brushes.

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2. By tonight they will have 14 generators with reworked Fafnir bearings, old-fashioned grease and good brushes. Two flight tests will be carried out today, one at Lockheed and one at Edwards; and if these are successful, believe that all generators having gone through this reworking can be considered qualified. They are adding a thermocouple to record the temperature as a safety measure. This will not be completed on even the first one until tonight so that shipment to the Far East can occur at the earliest tomorrow morning. Kelly would like to have instructions as to the disposition of the qualified generators on 2 assumptions - that 10 would be available tonight, or that 14 would be available tonight. He also stated that the 400 amp Bendix generators may be a better bet in the long run and that appreciable numbers of these could be available in about 3 weeks. OSA action

3. Kelly would like a decision on the desirability of going sole source to [redacted] for TAGBOARD. This seems to make sense. Are there any complications? OSA action.

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HERBERT SCOVILLE, JR.
Deputy Director
(Research)

ODDR:HScoville: [redacted]

1 Approved Subject
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2 - AD/OSA

3 - DDR Chrono

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